

NEWS CONFERENCE # 804

This Copy For _____

AT THE WHITE HOUSE
WITH PIERRE SALINGER
OCTOBER 28, 1962
4:30 PM EST
SUNDAY

MR. SALINGER: First we will pass copies of this around to you.

Q. Pierre, I thought you said earlier that he was getting the text.

MR. SALINGER: We haven't gotten it in full.

Q. You have gotten some of it?

MR. SALINGER: We have gotten some of it.

Q. Does that suggest a leaky set of communications with Moscow?

MR. SALINGER: No. You have to bear in mind, as I said on background on these things, we get the text in Russian and then it has to be given an official translation by our Embassy, and then it has to be transmitted.

Q. But the Soviet official text is in our hands now, is that right?

MR. SALINGER: Not fully yet.

Q. The Russian --

MR. SALINGER: The text that they put out over Moscow Radio has been in our hands all day.

Q. Didn't they hand us something?

MR. SALINGER: It was handed to our Embassy in Moscow.

Q. Kohler has the letter?

MR. SALINGER: Yes.

Q. Pierre, is there any difference between what we have received of that text and what the Moscow Radio has?

MR. SALINGER: We have detected no difference as of now.

Q. Where will we get further details as to what conditions and safeguards we are asking?

MR. SALINGER: I think this will be a matter which will be taken up at the UN.

Q. Mr. Secretary, can you tell me if work on these missile site bases in Cuba has in fact stopped?

MR. SALINGER: I can't answer that question.

Q. Is this on the record, Pierre?

MR. SALINGER: Yes, that answer is on the record.

Q. What answer?

Q. When are sessions going to start at the UN?

MR. SALINGER: I can't answer that question.

Q. Is that last sentence accepting for a summit?

MR. SALINGER: I am not going to read anything beyond what this says.

Q. Pierre, on whether or not the work at the missiles bases has stopped, is that a matter of your not knowing?

MR. SALINGER: It is a matter of my not knowing.

Q. Have we designated a particular representative for the discussion?

MR. SALINGER: Not yet, no.

Q. Pierre, the quarantine still remains in effect?

MR. SALINGER: I think this message explains that.

Q. Have we any reaction to Castro's demands?

MR. SALINGER: No.

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Q. Kohler has the letter?

MR. SALINGER: Yes.

Q. But it is in Russian?

MR. SALINGER: Yes, it is in Russian. He got it at 1500 Moscow time.

Q. What time is that in our time?

MR. SALINGER: I think it is eight hours.

MORE

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MR. SALINGER: No.

Q. Is this all the White House will say tonight?

MR. SALINGER: Yes.

The President will be back from Glenora sometime between 6:30 and 7 o'clock. As far as I am concerned, at the close of this press conference there will be a total lid here today.

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Q. Until when?

MR. SALINGER: Until the regular hour tomorrow morning, nine o'clock.

Q. Is there anything scheduled for tomorrow?

Q. Pierre, could you indicate to us when we will have the next surveillance report?

Q. We can't hear the question.

MR. SALINGER: The question is when we will have the next surveillance report. I don't know the answer to that question.

Q. Pierre, this message mentions arrangements to report to the OAS. Has a meeting been called of the OAS for tomorrow, do you know?

MR. SALINGER: I will try to get the answer to that question.

Q. Do you have anything for the President's activities tomorrow?

MR. SALINGER: I have his schedule for tomorrow which I can give you. At ten o'clock, the NSC Executive Committee; at 12 o'clock, His Excellency Amelito Mutuc, newly appointed Ambassador of the Philippines to present his credentials. That is all the schedule I have.

Q. Pierre, because of the apparent easing of this situation, has there any thought that has been given or is there any possibility that the President might make one or more political appearances before the election?

MR. SALINGER: No. He is not going to make any political appearances.

Q. Has he any plans for a broadcast of any kind?

MR. SALINGER: Not at the present time.

Q. How about lifting the ban on politicking of the Cabinet Members?

MR. SALINGER: No, I think all of those things will remain in effect.

Q. There has been no change in the political

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Q. There has been no change in the political situation?

MR. SALINGER: There has been no change in the political situation.

THE PRESS: Thank you, Mr. Secretary.

END